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Danseuses Roses H. G. E. Degas (1834-1917)

Purchased 1920

Two Modern French Paintings

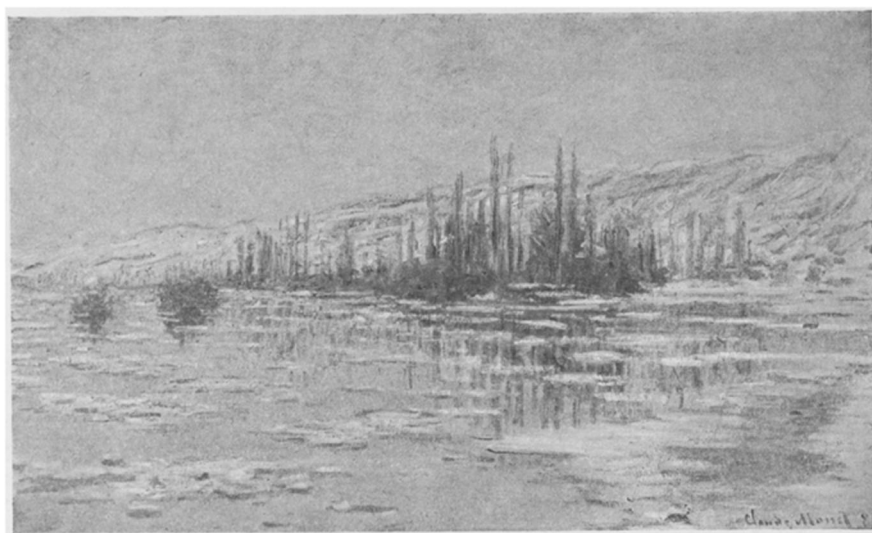
TWO modern French paintings were purchased in January by the Museum. One, from the collection of Mr. Joseph F. Flanagan, is a pastel by Degas of ballet girls with uplifted arms,

in rhythmic motion, and reveals the painter's wonderful draughtsmanship and subtle power over color. Not merely are the dresses of the dancers suffused with color, but the whole figures, their flesh and hair, are bathed in a rosy hue, and even the very air scintillates with color.

It is well known that Degas scorned the banal and pretty, painting his subjects as he found them. Hence the dancers themselves are not chosen types of beauty, and this picture illustrates the striking contrast between want of distinction in his subjects and the delicacy and refinement of his methods.

When we recall that he was one of the band of Manet, Monet and Pissarro, leading disciples of the "plein air" school, painting in the presence of the natural objects themselves, this painting shows his independence and reveals another contrast in that it was obviously painted by the artist in an artificial light.

The other purchase, from Mr. Arthur B. Emmons' collection, is an oil painting by Claude Monet of the break-up of the ice on the river Seine at Vétheuil, near the artist's own home. The snow-laden clouds, with a suspicion of a coming break, hang heavy over a cold wintry scene. Painted in 1880, it reveals a firm and certain touch and a solidity and luminosity which are in contrast with the evanescence of others of this series of a later date. As a painting it is a great test of the artist's capacity. The scene takes in an extensive background, and with the middle distance so dark it is remarkable with what skill the painter manages his foreground. It belongs to the period before he merged his tones and used an elusive palette.



La Débâcle: Série des Glaçons: à Vétheuil

Claude Monet (1840-)

Purchased 1920

The Museum Incorporated February 3, 1870

THE Museum completes this month a half-century as a body corporate. The single charter member now serving on the Board is Dr. Charles William Eliot, Ex-President of Harvard University, always welcome and active in all the counsels of the Museum.

Notes

"THE YELLOW JACKET." The American play in the Chinese manner, called "The Yellow Jacket," by Messrs. George C. Hazleton and J. Harry Benrimo, of New York, performed in Boston in 1913 at the Tremont Theatre, was given in the Lecture Hall of the Museum on the evening of January 14 by The Amateurs of Brookline under the direction of Mrs. Frederick H. Briggs. The hall was filled to the doors both on that evening and at the dress rehearsal of the night before. The Museum owes its cordial thanks to Mrs. Briggs and the Amateurs, and to those of the Trustees who contributed to the cost of the production.

CONTEMPORARY FRENCH ART. The exhibition under the auspices of the French Government, now at the Metropolitan Museum, will be opened at this Museum early in February.

PICTURES AND STORIES FOR BOYS AND GIRLS from nine to fourteen years old. A series of illustrated talks by Mrs. Scales, the Museum Instructor, on "The World About Us in Picture and Story" is now in progress in the Lecture Hall

of the Museum on Saturday afternoons at two o'clock. The talks are free to all. The complete list of the subjects is as follows:

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| January 10. | The Sun and its Glory. |
| January 17. | The Earth and its Uses. |
| January 24. | The Magic of the Sea. |
| January 31. | The Flowers in their Beauty. |
| February 7. | Our Friends the Birds. |
| February 14. | The Faithful Horse. |
| February 21. | Other Four-footed Heroes. |
| February 28. | City Highways and Byways. |
| March 6. | People Who Count for Something. |
| March 13. | Down the Road to the Long Ago. (Told by Miss Anna Curtis Chandler, of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, in exchange with Mrs. Scales.) |

AN EXHIBITION OF WORK BY BOSTON ARTISTS, arranged at the invitation of the Museum by the Copley Society, will be held at the Museum early in March.

Acquisitions, November 7, 1919, to January 1, 1920



Skyphos

Greek

Classical Art. Greek black-figured skyphos (described and illustrated in the Catalogue of Greek and Roman Vases, by Edward Robinson, p. 136, No. 372) Gift of the Heirs of Henry Adams.

Paintings. Portrait of Robert Waterston, by Gilbert Stuart. Portrait of Hephzibah Lord Waterston, by Gilbert Stuart .. Gift of the Grandchildren of Robert and Hephzibah Lord Waterston.

Harlequin Masquerade Courtship, attributed to Antoine Watteau Gift in memory of Miss Marian Russell.



*Robert Waterston
Gilbert Stuart*

Portrait of Mrs. Georgianna Buckham Wright and her mother, by Henry Inman Bequest of Georgianna B. Wright.

Drawing by Sydney P. Hall: "Awkward Position of Mr. Gladstone" Gift of Laurence Curtis.

The Young Mother, by F. H. Tompkins Purchased from the Charles Henry Hayden Fund.

The Morning Shadow, by H. H. Gallison Bequest of Mrs. Samuel Parkman Oliver.

Western Art. Rhages tile Purchased.

Chippendale chair; silver salt dish, made by Hull and Sanderson; silver tablespoon and porringer, made by Samuel Edwards; silver can, made by